

## (12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property  
Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
8 April 2004 (08.04.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2004/028591 A1**

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **A61M 1/00**

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(21) International Application Number:  
PCT/AU2003/001239

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(22) International Filing Date:  
19 September 2003 (19.09.2003)

(81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
2002951618 25 September 2002 (25.09.2002) AU

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(84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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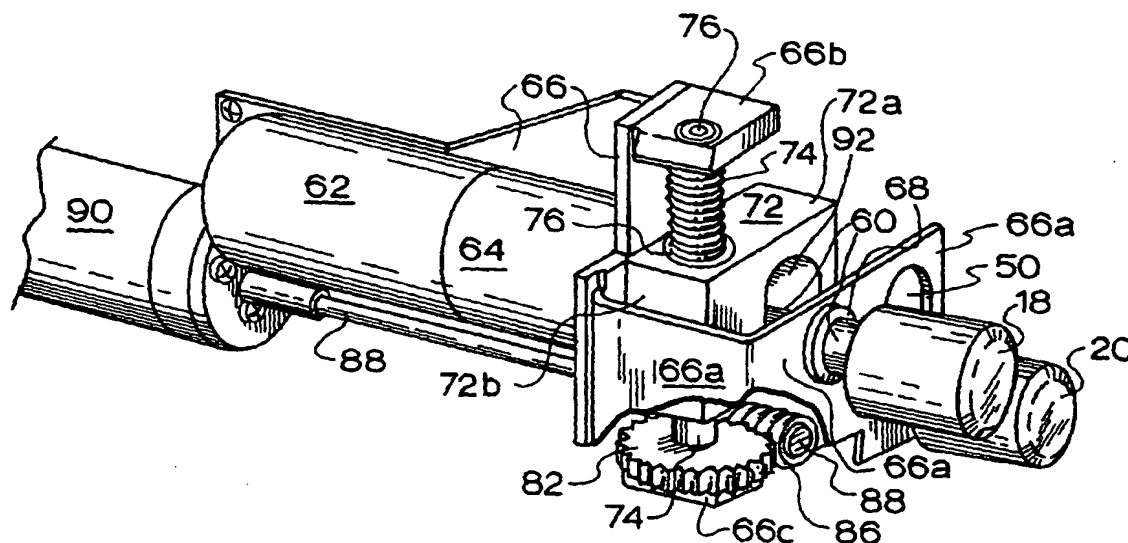
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Published:

— with international search report

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: MEANS FOR COMPRESSING TUBES AND THE LIKE



(57) Abstract: A device (10) for stripping fluid from a tube (40) is provided that is of use in stripping blood from bloodlines after the collection of blood from donors. The device is preferably hand-held and battery-powered, having a fixed driven roller (18), a moveable idle roller (20) and a tube guide (22) extending cantilever-fashion from one end thereof. The idle roller (20) can be moved toward the fixed and driven roller (18) to form a nip therebetween which pinches the tube (40) and draws it through the nip when the driven roller (18) is rotated. Idle roller (20) is moveable in a slot (50) and in direction which is never coplanar with the plane (Y) that contains the axes of the rollers (18 & 20). The angle  $\theta$  between the direction of movement of the idle roller (20) and the plane (Y) containing the axes of the rollers when the nip is formed can vary between about 30 and 90 degrees.